

CLAIMS

- 1 1. A method for enabling features of a printing device, said method comprising:
2 receiving information corresponding to an authorization of a user, the
3 information including a designation of at least a first feature of the printing device the
4 user desires to enable;
5 retrieving information adapted to enable at least the first feature of the printing
6 device; and
7 enabling at least the first feature of the printing device using the information
8 retrieved.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving information to be printed; and
3 enabling the printing device to print the information to be printed using at least
4 the first feature.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
2 providing a user authorization tag including the information corresponding to
3 the authorization of the user; and
4 wherein receiving the information corresponding to the authorization of the
5 user is accomplished when the user authorization tag is in a proximity of the printing
6 device.

1 4. The method of claim 2, further comprising:
 2 determining whether the information corresponding to the authorization of the
 3 user is being received; and
 4 discontinuing printing of the information to be printed using at least the first
 5 feature if the information corresponding to the authorization of the user is not being
 6 received.

1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein retrieving the information adapted to enable at
 2 least the first feature comprises:
 3 accessing a storage medium external to the printing device; and
 4 retrieving the information adapted to enable at least the first feature from the
 5 storage medium.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the storage medium is a Web site.

1 7. The method of claim 5, further comprising:
 2 providing the storage medium.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the information adapted to enable at least the
 2 first feature is stored by the printing device.

1 9. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 receiving identification information corresponding to a print cartridge of the
3 printing device;
4 determining whether the identification information corresponding to the print
5 cartridge is associated with the printing device; and
6 if the identification information corresponding to the print cartridge is not
7 associated with the printing device, notifying the user that the print cartridge may not
8 be associated with the printing device.

1 10. A print system comprising:
2 a printing device having a first print cartridge and an identification reader, the
3 first print cartridge containing a print substance for printing on a print medium, the
4 first cartridge having a readable identification tag for providing first information, the
5 identification reader being configured to receive the first information from the
6 identification tag, such that, if the first information corresponds to the printing device,
7 the identification reader enables the printing device to print; and
8 a feature-enabling system communicating with the printing device, the feature-
9 enabling system being configured to receive information corresponding to an
10 authorization of a user, the information including a designation of at least a first
11 feature of the printing device the user desires to enable, retrieve information adapted
12 to enable at least the first feature of the printing device, and enable at least the first
13 feature of the printing device using the information retrieved.

- 1 11. The print system of claim 10, wherein the identification reader includes a
2 receiver, the receiver being adapted to receive the information corresponding to the
3 authorization of the user via wireless communication.
- 1 12. The print system of claim 10, wherein the identification reader includes means
2 for receiving information via wireless communication.
- 1 13. The print system of claim 10, further comprising:
2 a user authorization tag adapted to communicate with the identification reader
3 via wireless communication, the user authorization tag including a memory, the
4 memory storing the information corresponding to the authorization of the user.
- 1 14. The print system of claim 13, wherein the user authorization tag includes
2 information configured to enable the feature-enabling system to retrieve the
3 information adapted to enable at least the first feature of the printing device.
- 1 15. The print system of claim 13, wherein the user authorization tag includes a
2 Uniform Resources Locator corresponding to the information adapted to enable at
3 least the first feature of the printing device.

1 16. The print system of claim 10, further comprising:
2 a second print cartridge having a print substance for printing on a print
3 medium and a readable identification tag for providing the first information, the
4 second print cartridge being adapted to be installed in the printing device after the first
5 print cartridge is removed from the printing device.

1 17. The print system of claim 10, wherein the first feature is one of: a half-toning
2 algorithm, a font, a digital signature and a photo algorithm.

1 18. A computer readable medium for use with a printing device, said computer
2 readable medium comprising:
3 logic configured to:
4 receive information corresponding to an authorization of a user, the
5 information including a designation of at least a first feature the user desires to
6 enable;
7 retrieve information adapted to enable at least the first feature of the
8 printing device; and
9 enable at least the first feature of the printing device using the
10 information retrieved.

1 19. The computer readable medium of claim 18, further comprising:
2 logic configured to access a Web site; and
3 logic configured to retrieve the information adapted to enable at least the first
4 feature from the Web site.

1 20. The computer readable medium of claim 18, further comprising:
 2 logic configured to determine whether identification information
 3 corresponding to a print cartridge is associated with the printing device; and
 4 logic configured to notify the user if the identification information corresponding to
 5 the print cartridge is not associated with the printing device.

1 21. The computer readable medium of claim 18, further comprising:
 2 logic configured to determine whether the information corresponding to the
 3 authorization of the user is being received; and
 4 logic configured to discontinue printing by the printing device using at least
 5 the first feature if the information corresponding to the authorization of the user is not
 6 being received.